Genesis 2 Good News Translation

2 And so the whole universe was completed. **2** By the seventh day God finished what
he had been doing and stopped working. **3** He blessed the seventh day and set it apart
as a special day, because by that day he had completed his creation[a] and stopped
working. **4** And that is how the universe was created.

The Garden of Eden

When the LORD[b] God made the universe, **5** there were no plants on the earth and no
seeds had sprouted, because he had not sent any rain, and there was no one to
cultivate the land; **6** but water would come up from beneath the surface and water the
ground.

7 Then the LORD God took some soil from the ground and formed a man[c] out of it; he
breathed life-giving breath into his nostrils and the man began to live.

8 Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the East, and there he put the man he
had formed. **9** He made all kinds of beautiful trees grow there and produce good fruit.
In the middle of the garden stood the tree that gives life and the tree that gives
knowledge of what is good and what is bad.[d]

10 A stream flowed in Eden and watered the garden; beyond Eden it divided into four
rivers. **11** The first river is the Pishon; it flows around the country of Havilah. (**12** Pure
gold is found there and also rare perfume and precious stones.) **13** The second river is
the Gihon; it flows around the country of Cush.[e] **14** The third river is the Tigris, which
flows east of Assyria, and the fourth river is the Euphrates.

15 Then the LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to cultivate it and guard it.
16 He told him, "You may eat the fruit of any tree in the garden, **17** except the tree that
gives knowledge of what is good and what is bad.[f] You must not eat the fruit of that
tree; if you do, you will die the same day."

18 Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to live alone. I will make a
suitable companion to help him." **19** So he took some soil from the ground and formed
all the animals and all the birds. Then he brought them to the man to see what he

would name them; and that is how they all got their names. **20** So the man named all the birds and all the animals; but not one of them was a suitable companion to help him.

21 Then the LORD God made the man fall into a deep sleep, and while he was sleeping, he took out one of the man's ribs and closed up the flesh. **22** He formed a woman out of the rib and brought her to him. **23** Then the man said,

> "At last, here is one of my own kind—
> Bone taken from my bone, and flesh from my flesh.
> 'Woman' is her name because she was taken out of man."[g]

24 That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united with his wife, and they become one.

25 The man and the woman were both naked, but they were not embarrassed.

Footnotes

a. Genesis 2:3 by that day he had completed his creation; or on that day he completed his creation.
b. Genesis 2:4 Where the Hebrew text has Yahweh, traditionally transliterated as Jehovah, this translation employs LORD with capital letters, following a usage which is widespread in English versions.
c. Genesis 2:7 The Hebrew words for "man" and "ground" have similar sounds.
d. Genesis 2:9 knowledge of what is good and what is bad; or knowledge of everything.
e. Genesis 2:13 Cush (of Mesopotamia); or Ethiopia.
f. Genesis 2:17 knowledge of what is good and what is bad; or knowledge of everything.
g. Genesis 2:23 The Hebrew words for "woman" and "man" have rather similar sounds.

‹ Genesis 1 Genesis 3 ›

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